WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multicolor image-forming material comprising:

an image-receiving sheet having an image-receiving layer and a support; and

at least four thermal transfer sheets each including a support, a light-to-heat converting layer and an image-forming layer, in which each of the thermal transfer sheets has a different color,

wherein a multicolor image is formed by: superposing the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets on the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet, in which the image-forming layer is opposed to the image-receiving layer; irradiating the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets with a laser beam; transferring the irradiated area of the image-forming layer onto the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet to form an image; and transferring the image on the image-receiving layer onto an actual printing paper, and

each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a recording area being defined by a product of a length of 515 mm or more and width of 728 mm or more, and each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets is larger in each of a length-wise and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 20 mm to 80 mm, and the actual printing paper is larger in each

of a length-wise and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 5 mm to 100 mm.

2. A multicolor image-forming material comprising:

an image-receiving sheet having an image-receiving layer and a support; and

at least four thermal transfer sheets each including a support, a light-to-heat converting layer and an image-forming layer, in which each of the thermal transfer sheets has a different color,

wherein a multicolor image is formed by: superposing the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets on the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet, in which the image-forming layer is opposed to the image-receiving layer; irradiating the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets with a laser beam; and transferring the irradiated area of the image-forming layer onto the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet to form a image, and

the dynamic frictional force between an image-receiving surface on the image-receiving sheet and a back surface on the opposite side thereof is 30 gf to 120 gf.

3. The multicolor image-forming material according to

claim 2, wherein the dynamic frictional force is 50 gf to 80 gf.

4. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 2, wherein each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a recording area being defined by a product of a length of 515 mm or more and width of 728 mm or more.

5. The multicolor imaging-forming material according to claim 1, wherein a surface of the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a scratch resistance of 30 g or more, when the surface is scratched at a rate of 1 cm/second with a needle having a curvature radius of 0.25 mm.

6. The multicolor imaging-forming material according to claim 5, wherein the scratch resistance is 220 g or more.

7. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein the irradiated area of the image-forming layer is transferred onto the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet in a thin film.

8. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein the at least four thermal transfer sheets

contain yellow, magenta, cyan and black thermal transfer sheets.

9. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein each of the image-forming layers in the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a ratio of an optical density (OD) to a layer thickness: OD/layer thickness (μm unit) of 1.50 or more, and the transferred image onto the image-receiving layer has a resolution of 2400 dpi or more.

10. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein the transferred image onto the image-receiving layer has a resolution of 2600 dpi or more.

11. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein each of the image-forming layers in the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a ratio of an optical density (OD) to a layer thickness: OD/layer thickness (μm unit) of 1.80 or more.

12. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets and the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet each has a contact angle with water of from 7.0 to 120.0°.

13. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein each of the image-forming layers in the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a ratio of an optical density (OD) to a layer thickness: OD/layer thickness (μm unit) of 1.80 or more, and the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet has a contact angle with water of 86° or less.

14. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein each of the image-forming layers in the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a ratio of an optical density (OD) to a layer thickness: OD/layer thickness (μm unit) of 2.50 or more.

15. The multicolor image-forming material according to claim 1, wherein each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a recording area being defined by a product of a length of 594 mm or more and width of 841 mm or more.

16. A method for forming a multicolor image, which comprises:

preparing: an image-receiving sheet having an image-receiving layer and a support; and at least four thermal transfer sheets each including a support, a light-to-heat

converting layer and an image-forming layer, in which the at least four thermal transfer sheets have at least four colors including yellow, magenta, cyan and black, in which each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a different color, and each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a recording area being defined by a product of a length of 515 mm or more and width of 728 mm or more, and each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets is larger in each of a length-width and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 20 mm to 80 mm;

superposing the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets on the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet, in which the image-forming layer is opposed to the image-receiving layer;

irradiating the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets from the side of the support with a laser beam; and

transferring the irradiated area of the image-forming layer onto the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet to form a image; and

transferring the image on the image-receiving layer onto an actual printing paper, wherein the actual printing paper is larger in each of a length-wise and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 5 mm to 100 mm.

17. A method for forming a multicolor image, which comprises:

preparing: an image-receiving sheet having an image-receiving layer and a support; and at least four thermal transfer sheets each including a support, a light-to-heat converting layer and an image-forming layer, in which the at least four thermal transfer sheets have at least four colors including yellow, magenta, cyan and black, and each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets has a different color, and the dynamic frictional force between an image-receiving surface on the image receiving sheet and a back surface on the opposite side thereof is 30 gf to 120 gf;

superposing the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets on the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet, in which the image-forming layer is opposed to the image-receiving layer;

irradiating the image-forming layer in each of the at least four thermal transfer sheets from the side of the support with a laser beam; and

transferring the irradiated area of the image-forming layer onto the image-receiving layer in the image-receiving sheet to form a image.